

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following for the original text of the Abstract:

A method for encoding ATM cells for transmission over a wireless link comprising the steps of receiving an ATM cell stream comprised of a plurality of ATM cells and detecting idle/unassigned cells within the cell stream. Then, a header frame made up of headers of a number of the plurality of ATM cells is assembled, together with a payload frame made up of payloads of a number of the plurality of ATM cells. Finally, some of the detected idle/unassigned cells are placed in a selected portion of the payload frame.

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